

# **ASSURANCE STATEMENT**

# SGS TAIWAN LTD.'S REPORT ON SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES IN THE ACER INC.'S SUSTAINABILITY REPORT FOR 2021

#### NATURE AND SCOPE OF THE ASSURANCE/VERIFICATION

SGS Taiwan Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as SGS) was commissioned by Acer Inc. (hereinafter referred to as Acer) to conduct an independent assurance of the Sustainability Report for 2021 (hereinafter referred to as the SR Report). The scope of the assurance, based on the SGS Sustainability Report Assurance methodology, included the sampled text, and data in accompanying tables, contained in the report presented during verification 2022/3/2~2022/4/1. SGS reserves the right to update the assurance statement from time to time depending on the level of report content discrepancy of the published version from the agreed standards requirements.

# INTENDED USERS OF THIS ASSURANCE STATEMENT

This Assurance Statement is provided with the intention of informing all Acer's Stakeholders.

# **RESPONSIBILITIES**

The information in the Acer's SR Report of 2021 and its presentation are the responsibility of the directors or governing body (as applicable) and management of Acer. SGS has not been involved in the preparation of any of the material included in the Report.

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the report content within the scope of verification with the intention to inform all Acer's stakeholders.

# ASSURANCE STANDARDS, TYPE AND LEVEL OF ASSURANCE

The assurance of this report has been conducted according to the SGS ESG & Sustainability Report Assurance protocols used to conduct assurance, which are based upon internationally recognized assurance guidance, including the Principles contained within the Global Reporting Initiative Sustainability Reporting Standards (GRI Standards) 101: Foundation 2016 for report quality and Limited level of assurance contained within ISAE3000.

The assurance of this report has been conducted according to the following Assurance Standards:

Assurance Standard Options and Level of Assurance	
A.	SGS ESG & SRA Assurance Protocols (based on GRI Principles)
В.	ISAE 3000 Limited Level

# SCOPE OF ASSURANCE AND REPORTING CRITERIA

The scope of the assurance included evaluation of quality, accuracy and reliability of specified performance information as detailed below and evaluation of adherence to the following reporting criteria:

# **Reporting Criteria Options**

- 1. GRI Standards (Core)
- 2. SASB
  - evaluation of content veracity of scrutiny for Acer and scrutiny for subsidiaries, and applicable aspect boundaries outside of the organization covered by this report;
  - evaluation of the report against the requirements of Global Reporting Initiative Sustainability Reporting Standards (100, 200, 300 and 400 series) claimed in the GRI content index as material and in accordance with; and
  - evaluate of the report against the SASB Disclosures and Metrics included in the HARDWARE Sustainability Accounting Standard (VERSION 2018-10) and conducted alongside an evaluation of accuracy assurance at moderate level of scrutiny.

# **ASSURANCE METHODOLOGY**

The assurance comprised a combination of pre-assurance research, interviews with relevant employees, superintendents, Sustainability committee members and the senior management in Taiwan; documentation and record review and validation with external bodies and/or stakeholders where relevant.

#### LIMITATIONS AND MITIGATION

Financial data drawn directly from independently audited financial accounts, and Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) has not been checked back to source as part of this assurance process.

# STATEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE AND COMPETENCE

The SGS Group of companies is the world leader in inspection, testing and verification, operating in more than 140 countries and providing services including management systems and service certification; quality, environmental, social and ethical auditing and training; environmental, social and sustainability report assurance. SGS affirm our independence from Acer, being free from bias and conflicts of interest with the organisation, its subsidiaries and stakeholders.

The assurance team was assembled based on their knowledge, experience and qualifications for this assignment, and comprised auditors registered with ISO 26000, ISO 20121, ISO 50001, SA8000, RBA, QMS, EMS, SMS, GPMS, CFP, WFP, GHG Verification and GHG Validation Lead Auditors and experience on the SRA Assurance service provisions.

# FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

#### **VERIFICATION/ ASSURANCE OPINION**

On the basis of the methodology described and the verification work performed, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the specified performance information included in the scope of assurance is not fairly stated and has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the reporting criteria.

The assurance team is of the opinion that the Report can be used by the Reporting Organisation's Stakeholders. In our opinion, the contents of the report meet the requirements of GRI Standards in accordance with Core Option.

#### **CONCLUSIONS, FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **GRI Standards**

The report, Acer's SR Report of 2021, is adequately in line with the GRI Standards in accordance with Core Option. The material topics and their boundaries within and outside of the organization are properly defined in accordance with GRI's Reporting Principles for Defining Report Content. Disclosures of identified material topics and boundaries, and stakeholder engagement, GRI 102-40 to GRI 102-47, are correctly located in content index and report. For future reporting, it is recommended to have more descriptions of Acer's involvement with the impacts for each material topic (103-1). More descriptions of how Acer manages each material topic and the statement of the purpose of the management approach (103-2) and any related adjustments to the management approach (103-3).

#### **SASB**

Acer has referenced with SASB's Standard, HARDWARE STANDARD, VERSION 2018-10 to disclose information of material topics that are vital for enterprise value creation. The reporting boundary is the same as Acer's sustainability report. Acer used SASB accounting and activity metrics to assess and manage the topic-related risks and opportunities, where relevant quantitative information was assessed for its accuracy and completeness to support the comparability of the data reported. Acer has determined which disclosure topics and associated metrics are financially material to its business and has illustrated appropriately in the content index. By using both GRI and SASB standards together, the efficiency of communication and the identification of material issues are substantially increased during the whole reporting preparation process. Besides, it is best practice to implement a gap analysis and comparison of reported issues and benchmark within or across sectors in next reporting.

# ISAE 3000 Best Practices

During the assurance, the following best practices were identified:

- Acer has implemented its low carbon circulated strategy through its products innovative design, extend
  the product life cycle and effectively use materials on their key products, that can both benefit Acer and
  users towards low carbon footprint.
- Acer enhanced best employer branding image on talent attraction, retention, and development, through
  continuously expending digitalized recruitment process and channel, enhancing capability of leadership
  and management at group management level, developing ESG related training to enhance sustainability
  competitiveness.
- Acer has set up a responsible supply chain management and extended the supply chain risk evaluation and management to its tier 2 suppliers and selected key ODM to extend to tier 3 suppliers in 2021.

We believe that the organisation has chosen an appropriate level of assurance for this stage in their reporting.

Signed:

For and on behalf of SGS Taiwan Ltd.

David Huang Senior Director Taipei, Taiwan 08 June, 2022 WWW.SGS.COM

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